



Practitioner's Docket No. HIT1P060/HSJ920030255US1

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: GILL et al.

Application No.: 10/777,830

Group No.: 1773

Filed: February 11, 2004

Examiner: Kevin M. BERNATZ

For: USE OF IRIIDIUM COUPLING LAYER IN AP-TAB MAGNETIC HEAD

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION IN THE UNITED STATES
OR IN A NAFTA OR WTO MEMBER COUNTRY
TO OVERCOME CITED PATENT OR PUBLICATION (37 C.F.R. § 1.131)

PURPOSE OF DECLARATION

1. This declaration is to establish completion of the invention of this application in the United States at a date prior to September 5, 2003, that is the effective date of the prior art publication that was cited by the examiner.
2. The persons making this declaration are the inventors.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10*

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April Skovmand
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* Only the date of filing (' 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under ' 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See ' 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (' 1.10) or facsimile transmission (' 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

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37 C.F.R. section 1.131—page 1 of 3



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ZILKA-KOTAB, PC
REG.

408717913 NO. 1954 P. 18 - 1



COPY

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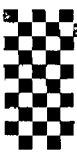
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**FACTS AND DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE**

3. As evidence of the date of conception of the invention of this application, the following attached documents and/or models are submitted as evidence:

STATEMENT: I hereby state that conception of the invention in the above-identified patent application was made prior to September 5, 2003, as supported by Exhibit A. Exhibit A is a copy of the disclosure of our invention. I state that the concepts and features described in Exhibit A were conceived and discussed by the inventors prior to September 5, 2003.

EXHIBIT A: disclosure of the invention prepared by inventor H. Gill on July 1, 2003

Exhibit A demonstrates that the subject matter of claims 1-7, 9, 11-18, and 20 of the present application were in the possession of the inventors at least as early as September 27, 2003. Particularly, page 2 of the disclosure discloses all of the limitations of claims 1-7, 9, 11-18, and 20.

From the Exhibit and statement, it can be seen that the invention claimed in the noted claims was made prior to September 5, 2003.

DILIGENCE

4. It is hereby declared that Applicants acted diligently up to reduction of practice or the filing date of the present patent application.

TIME OF PRESENTATION OF THE DECLARATION

5. This declaration is submitted prior to final rejection, or with a first or supplementary first reply after a final rejection for the purpose of overcoming a new ground of rejection or requirement made by the examiner, in which case the declaration is considered timely and should be considered. See MPEP 715.09(c).

DECLARATION

6. As a person signing below:

I hereby declare that the documents attached hereto disclose the subject matter of currently pending claims 1-7, 9, 11-18, and 20 of the subject patent application. I also declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

SIGNATURE(S)

Typewritten Full Name of
Sole or First Inventor:

Hardayal Singh Gill

Citizenship: USA

Inventor's signature:

Hardayal S. Gill

Date of Signature:

2/14/06

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37 C.F.R. section 1.131—page 2 of 3



FEB. 14. 2006 2:55PM

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408717913C NO. 1954 P. 20 p. 1

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37 C.F.R. section 1.131—page 3 of 3



FEB. 14. 2006. 2:55PM: 18 FZILKA-KOTAB, PC

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Citizenship: GERMANY

Inventor's signature: *Stefan Maat*

Date of Signature: 2/14/06

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